Dear Discover User:

The NCCS Discover team has updated the operating system on more than 200 of the 16-core IBM "Sandy Bridge" nodes to SLES 11/SP3. (All of the 28-core SGI "Haswell" nodes are already running SLES 11/SP3.)

Starting Mon, 27 July, in absence of any job submission constraints, your job may be directed to these nodes.

**To Request:**

To explicitly request these nodes, you will need to specify '--constraint="sand&sp3"' (be sure to include double quotes) on your sbatch or salloc command line, or in your inline directives, specify:

#SBATCH --constraint=sand&sp3

**To Avoid** (see Notes below for possible reasons to avoid these nodes):

To direct your job to 28-core Haswell processors:

#SBATCH --constraint=hasw

To direct your job to 16-core IBM Sandy Bridge processors with the SLES11 SP1 environment:

#SBATCH --constraint=sp1

Notes:

- SGI MPT is **unsupported** on these IBM nodes. If you experience issues, use one of the above alternative job submission options to avoid these nodes.
- With the reduction in available Sandy Bridge SP1 nodes, NCCS will attempt to conserve SP1 nodes for jobs that explicitly specify "--constraint=sp1". This change to the node allocation order may result in jobs that don't specify any constraints being directed to Haswell nodes.

General note: To minimize future changes required to your batch scripts, please do not specify any partition when submitting to the default partition.

If you have not yet completed the transition of your codes to the SP3 environment, please do so as soon as possible. The SP3 environment is available for interactive testing on login nodes by specifying discover-sp3. Please contact NCCS User Services Group support@nccs.nasa.gov, or (301) 286-9120, if you need support in making this transition.